

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

JUNE 16, 2005 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MONTROSE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CHILD PORN

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Montrose, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to receiving child pornography over the Internet.

Martin William Stoetzle, 59, of Montrose, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan this morning to charges contained in a Dec. 15, 2004, federal indictment.

By pleading guilty, **Stoetzle** admitted that he received child pornography over the Internet on Jan. 9, 2004. **Stoetzle** received and possessed more than 600 images of child pornography, Graves said, including some images of children under the age of 12 and some images that portrayed sadistic and violent sexually explicit acts with minors.

Under federal statutes, **Stoetzle** could be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in federal prison without parole, up to 20 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Katharine Fincham. It was investigated by the Montrose, Mo., Police Department, the Henry County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, the Heart of America Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow